

Notice of Determination

Appendix D

To:

☒ Office of Planning and Research

U.S. Mail: Street Address:
 P.O. Box 3044 1400 Tenth St., Rm 113
 Sacramento, CA 95812-3044 Sacramento, CA 95814

☒ County Clerk

County of: Los Angeles
 Address: 12400 Imperial Highway
Norwalk, CA 90650

From:

Public Agency: Santa Monica-Malibu USD
 Address: 2828 4th Street
Santa Monica, CA 90405
 Contact: Julian Capata
 Phone: (310) 713-5897

Lead Agency (if different from above):

Address: _____
 Contact: _____
 Phone: _____

SUBJECT: Filing of Notice of Determination in compliance with Section 21108 or 21152 of the Public Resources Code.


State Clearinghouse Number (if submitted to State Clearinghouse): 2023090499

Project Title: Roosevelt Elementary School Campus Plan Project

Project Applicant: Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District

Project Location (include county): 801 Montana Avenue, Santa Monica, CA 90403, Los Angeles County
Northwest corner of Montana Avenue and Lincoln Boulevard

Project Description:

Demolish Bldgs. B, C, D, K, G, & H & 12 portables; one restroom; remove ~14 nonnative trees; construct new Auditorium, Bldgs. C & K, Cafeteria/Kitchen, Library, and Maker Space & Teaming Area & 1 addition to Bldg. A; renovate Bldgs. A, E, & J & the South Courtyard; replace sports fields; create new green spaces; install security gates; relocate 48-space parking lot to Campus' north boundary & expand to 67 total spaces. See attached resolution. 

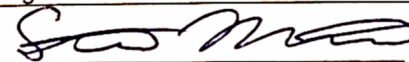
This is to advise that the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District has approved the above
 (☒ Lead Agency or ☐ Responsible Agency)

described project on 12/12/2024 and has made the following determinations regarding the above
 (date)
 described project.

1. The project [☒ will ☐ will not] have a significant effect on the environment.
2. ☒ An Environmental Impact Report was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
☐ A Negative Declaration was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
3. Mitigation measures [☒ were ☐ were not] made a condition of the approval of the project.
4. A mitigation reporting or monitoring plan [☒ was ☐ was not] adopted for this project.
5. A statement of Overriding Considerations [☒ was ☐ was not] adopted for this project.
6. Findings [☒ were ☐ were not] made pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.

This is to certify that the final EIR with comments and responses and record of project approval, or the negative Declaration, is available to the General Public at:

<https://www.smmusd.org/Page/5595> and at District offices: 1717 4th Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401

Signature (Public Agency):  Title: Bonds Program Manager

Date: 12/17/24 Date Received for filing at OPR: _____

**SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

RESOLUTION

**CERTIFICATION OF ROOSEVELT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CAMPUS PLAN PROJECT
FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT, FINDINGS, ADOPTION OF MITIGATION
MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM AND STATEMENT OF OVERRIDING
CONSIDERATIONS, AND DECISION TO CARRY OUT THE PROJECT**

WHEREAS, the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District (“District”) has developed the Roosevelt Elementary School Campus Plan Project (“Project”) located at 801 Montana Avenue, Santa Monica, CA 90403 (“Campus”); and

WHEREAS, the District created the Project, which redevelops a portion of the 6.5-acre Campus, which would be phased over approximately seven years in five phases. The Project specifically consists of removing and demolishing 19 buildings (Buildings B, C, D, K, G, and H and 12 portables; one restroom building); removing approximately 14 ornamental, nonnative trees; constructing six new buildings (Auditorium, Buildings C and K, Cafeteria/Kitchen, Library, and Maker Space & Teaming Area) and one addition to Building A; renovating three buildings (Buildings A, E, and J) and the South Courtyard; replacing sports fields; creating new green spaces for outdoor learning and play areas that are currently paved or part of certain building footprints; installing security gates at each school entry point, relocating the 48-space parking lot to the northern boundary of the Campus and expanding it to 67 total spaces (optional below-grade lot with 165 spaces) for an overall total of 66,850 sf of new development and 9,296 sf of renovation; and,

WHEREAS, the District engaged Michael Baker International (“Environmental Consultant”) to conduct environmental review of the Project; and,

WHEREAS, the Environmental Consultant analyzed and determined that the Project may potentially create a significant or cumulatively considerable environmental impact and that the appropriate environmental document would be an Environmental Impact Report (“EIR”); and,

WHEREAS, on September 11, 2023, the District issued a Notice of Preparation of a Draft EIR and the Project’s Initial Study for public review and comment; the comment period ended on October 20, 2023; comment letters/emails were received that raised concerns, which the District addressed; in addition, District staff held a public scoping meeting on September 26, 2023; the Environmental Consultant and District staff considered all of these comments in preparing the Project’s Draft EIR; and,

WHEREAS, on September 16, 2024, the District issued a Notice of Availability and the Project’s Draft EIR for public review and comment; the Notice of Availability was filed with the State Clearinghouse, Los Angeles County Clerk’s Office, and also published on the District’s website, in a local newspaper, and directly mailed to each commenter of the Initial Study and affected public agencies; the Draft EIR was made available on the District’s website and at the District’s Offices; on September 25, 2024, District staff conducted a community presentation on the Project and the Draft EIR; the comment period for the Draft EIR ended on October 31, 2024 (45-day period); and

WHEREAS, the District received seven comments on the Draft EIR from the Department of Toxic Substances Control (“DTSC”), City of Santa Monica (“City”), Department of Conservation, California Geological Survey (“Department”), Santa Monica Conservancy, a neighbor, and a parent; DTSC offered investigation and oversight services should the District be seeking state funding for the Project; the City requested that the EIR’s reference to a historic district be clarified

that it is not a City designated historic district; the Department commended the District for the thorough and comprehensive Draft EIR; the Santa Monica Conservancy urged certain minor changes to the mitigation measures for the rehabilitation of buildings within the historic district and advocated for the alternative that preserve the entire historic district; in response, the mitigation measures recommendations were accepted and the Final EIR and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program ("MMRP") revised accordingly; it was explained that the alternative preserving the entire historic district did not meet most of the Proposed Project objectives and thus, is infeasible; one commenter asked questions about the number of years required to declare a structure a historical resource, requested that the Eucalyptus trees along Alta Avenue and the trumpet vines be saved, and how spill light would be mitigated; the response noted that Eucalyptus trees are not anticipated to be removed, but it may not be possible to save the trumpet vines from damage during construction; and the response explains that exterior lighting will comply with City's lighting requirements; another commenter asked about the probability that the underground parking option would be selected and expressed appreciation for bike elements of the Project; the response stated that funding would be a consideration for the underground parking; and

WHEREAS, December 2, 2024, proposed Responses to Comments were delivered to commenters.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Board of Education ("Board") hereby finds as follows:

1. That the above recitals are true and correct.
2. None of the comments identified a new significant or cumulatively considerable environmental impact, an increase in the severity of a significant or cumulatively considerable environmental impact, a feasible alternative to the Project or mitigation measure considerably different from others previously analyzed that would clearly lessen a significant environmental impact, or a feasible way to mitigate the two unavoidable significant impacts that the Project may cause. Further, the new information contained in the Final EIR merely clarifies or amplifies and makes insignificant changes to the Draft EIR. Accordingly, the Draft EIR is adequate and need not be recirculated for additional public review and comment.
3. The Final EIR, which contains the Comments and Responses to Comments, is attached as Exhibit 1, complies with CEQA.
4. The Findings prepared by the Environmental Consultant, attached as Exhibit 2, are the findings of this Board.
5. The Project would cause an unavoidable significant impact to historical resources by demolition contributor buildings, even though the core of the historic district will remain and be to a certain extent rehabilitated; therefore, a Statement of Overriding Considerations is required and is also attached as Exhibit 2.
6. The MMRP, attached as Exhibit 3, includes feasible mitigation measures that will mitigate those identified as significant or cumulatively considerable impacts to less than significant.
7. A reasonable range of Project alternatives is evaluated in the Final EIR even though a number of these alternatives are infeasible for failing to meet most of the Project's objectives.

8. The Draft EIR, Final EIR, Comments and Responses to Comments, MMRP, Findings of Fact, Statement of Overriding Considerations, the Board Item, all referenced documents, the whole of the record of proceedings, and this Resolution have been independently reviewed and considered by the Board and they wholly reflect the Board's independent judgment and analysis.
9. The requirements of CEQA have been fulfilled for the Project.
10. The Chief Operations Officer, Carey Upton, is the custodian of the documents and other materials which constitute the record of proceedings upon which the Board's decision is based. The record of proceedings shall be maintained at the District's Offices located at 1717 4th Street, Santa Monica, California 90401.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board hereby certifies that:

1. The Project's Final EIR has been completed in compliance with CEQA;
2. The Final EIR was presented to the Board and that the Board has reviewed and considered the information contained in the Final EIR prior to approving the Project; and
3. The Final EIR reflects the Board's independent judgment and analysis.


BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board hereby adopts:

1. The Final EIR (Exhibit 1);
2. The Findings of Fact/Statement of Overriding Considerations (Exhibit 2); and
3. The MMRP (Exhibit 3).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board hereby decides to carry out the Project.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District of Los Angeles County at its special Board meeting held on this 12th day of December 2024.

AYES: 7
NOES: 0
ABSTENTIONS: 0
ABSENT: 0



Jennifer Smith, President
Board of Education

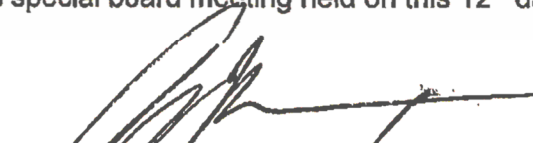
I, Dr. Antonio Shelton, Secretary of the Board of Education of the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District, do certify that the foregoing Resolution was regularly introduced, passed and adopted by the Board of Education at its special board meeting held on this 12th day of December 2024.

2024 255585

FILED
Dec 18 2024

Dean C. Logan, Registrar - Recorder/County Clerk

Electronically signed by TINA TRAN



Dr. Antonio Shelton, Superintendent
Santa Monica-Malibu
Unified School District